

**CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 8, 2009
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA**

The meeting of the California High-Speed Rail Authority was called to order on January 8, 2009 at 10:10 AM at the Sacramento Area Council of Governments in Sacramento, CA.

Members Present: Quentin Kopp, Chairman
Fran Florez
David Crane
Rod Diridon, Sr.
Kirk Lindsey
Curt Pringle
Lynn Schenk
Thomas Umberg

Members Absent: TJ Stapleton

Opening Comments

Chairman Kopp welcomed Board Members to today's meeting.

Approval of Meeting Minutes for the following Authority Meetings

Chairman Kopp presented the minutes from the December 3rd meeting for approval. Member Schenk moved to approve, Member Diridon seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Authority Members' Meetings for Compensation

Chairman Kopp presented the list of compensation meetings for approval. The Executive Director requested that Members identify which meetings are to be counted towards the per diem requirement. Each Board member would generate two lists: one for official business and one for compensation or at least identify for staff which ones are for compensation. Board policy is that any contacts be reported. Member Florez moved to approve, Member Diridon seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Member Reports

Chairman Kopp attended a Washington DC where there were approximately 450 people in attendance from around the world. The Chairman was encouraged by the number of firms from other countries who felt that their participation was a matter of course or expectation. The CA High-Speed Rail project was a feature throughout this event and there is support from private companies for our project.

The Chairman would like staff to re-examine our 2008/2009 budget and identify where reductions can be made. The Authority is proceeding forward although funding is frozen until the State has a budget in place.

Member Pringle stated that Member Crane and he are working on the staffing situation and may present a proposal on the outcome at the next meeting. Members Pringle and Umberg convened a meeting with LAMTA, OCTA, HSRA and the City of Anaheim to develop a cooperative and cohesive direction for their region. Community outreach is needed in the Los Angeles region to motivate interest in the region. Member Pringle would like to see a budget where the Authority can suspend or reduce expenditures and would like the Board to have discussion in this area.

Member Crane appreciates the focus on getting the high-speed rail train built at the fastest pace and at the lowest cost.

Member Schenk would like to see Board involvement in outreach to our legislators.

Member Diridon is focused on the federal funds that may be available as part of the stimulus package. A national high-speed rail coalition has been developed to cover four corridors. It is comprised of a policy member and Washington advocate from each region. A few meetings have occurred. Member Diridon also stated that there will be an informal TRB meeting in Washington, D.C. in the APTA office scheduled from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM.

Executive Director Report

Executive Director Morshed reported:

- Chairman Kopp was recognized as one of five people who have made a significant impact on infrastructure development in the world at the Washington DC event.
- The Peninsula region is progressing and the parties are interested in moving forward as quickly as possible.
- Staffing receives a high volume of requests and with the current workload, is unable to attend to each request that comes in.
- The report on P3 level of interest in the project will be presented at the next meeting.
- Need to establish a process and/or criteria to determine how segments are prioritized if they are not identified by statute. This needs to be fully discussed by the Board.

Deputy Director Pourvahidi reported:

The High-Speed Rail Authority has been affected by the fiscal crisis. The Authority currently has 4 funding sources some of which have encumbrance deadlines. The Authority is awaiting the budget for this fiscal year. Consultants are currently working without payment for services rendered absent a budget.

Authorization to Designate a Person to Act as Executive Director

Executive Director Morshed stated that the Authority needs a legal mechanism in place to continue to expedite things should the Executive Director be unavailable. A resolution was offered directing the Executive Director to designate a member of the Authority's staff to serve as acting Executive Director in the absence or during the unavailability of the Executive Director. The proposed resolution was moved by Member Diridon and seconded by Member Umberg. The motion carried 7-0.

Request for Proposal, Examination of Exposure to Liability

Authority legal counsel George Spanos reported that this proposal is not to obtain outside legal services. The proposal is to obtain the services of an entity with knowledge of the insurance industry, insurance market, construction industry and construction of railroad transportation. The objective is to understand what may go wrong and how to structure a contract that balances the interests of all parties and the realities of the market. An independent source for information to determine feasibility of a submitted proposal is needed because contracts written in this project may be tailored to unique situations that are beyond a standard contract format. There are limited resources and a lack of expertise in this area within the State and the Authority is encouraged to seek outside assistance in this area.

The recommendation was moved by Member Diridon and seconded by Member Schenk. The motion carried 7-0. This motion was withdrawn by Member Diridon with the approval of Member Schenk. A motion was made to continue this item to the next meeting to ascertain the interest of other entities in participating. The motion was made by Member Diridon and seconded by Member Umberg. The motion carried 7-0.

Work Program Discussion

Dominic Spaethling and Gary Kennerley introduced presentations from the Bay Area Team. Tim Cobb, HNTB presented the work program for the San Francisco – San Jose corridor. Dave Mansen, Parsons presented the work program for the San Jose – Merced corridor. Rob Hertz, AECOM presented the work program for the Altamont corridor. Their presentations are available upon request.

Public Comment

An opportunity for public comment was provided after each item was heard. The following person presented comments following the last agenda item to the Board: Robb Kingsbury.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm